IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the first paragraph to read as shown below.

CONTINUATION IN PART AND CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED PATENTS AND APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of application number 08/999,245, filed December 10, 1997 and application number 09/358,969, filed July 22, 1999, now abandoned both of which are incorporated herein by reference. The subject matter of this application is also related to the subject matter of U.S. Patent 5,615,109 for "Method of and System for Generating Feasible, Profit Maximizing Requisition Sets", U.S. Patent 6,321,205 "Method of and Systemfor Analyzing Business Improvement Programs", U.S. Patent 6,393,406 "Method of and System for Business Valuation" and U.S. Patent Application 09/421,553 filed October 20, 1999 the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference. <u>Application 09/940,450 is a</u> continuation of application number 09/421,553, filed October 20, 1999. Application 09/421,553 was a continuation-in-part of application number 09/358,969, filed July 22, 1999, of application number 09/295,337, filed April 21, 1999, application number 09/293,336, filed April 16, 1999 and application number 08/999,245, filed December 10, 1997 the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference. The subject matter of this application is also related to the subject matter of U.S. Patent Application 09/761,670 filed January 18, 2001, U.S. Patent Application 09/761,671 filed January 18, 2001, U.S. Patent Application 09/938,874 filed August 27, 2001, U.S. Patent Application 10/097,344 filed March 16, 2002, U.S. Patent Application 10/282,113filed October 29, 2002, U.S. Patent Application 10/283,083filed October 30, 2002. U.S. Patent Application 10/287,586 filed November 5, 2002, U.S. Patent Application 10/298,021 filed November 18, 2002, U.S. Patent Application 10/441,385 filed May 20, 2003, U.S. Patent Application 10/645,099 filed August 21, 2003, U.S. Patent Application 10/743,417 filed December 22, 2003 and U.S. Patent Application 10/750,792 filed January 3, 2004 the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.

> Examiner: Clement Graham Art Unit: 3628